



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 323
[2015 Assembly Bill 370]

**U.S. Foreign Service Motor Vehicle
Registration and Operator
Licensing**

Under current law, there are certain privileges related to motor vehicle registration and motor vehicle operator licensing accorded to persons on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. These privileges include the following:

- A vehicle's registration does not expire while the registrant is on active duty. Instead, the vehicle registration expires 30 days after the registrant returns to this state or 90 days after the registrant is discharged from active duty, whichever is earlier.
- While on leave for up to 30 days, a military member may obtain a temporary license plate from the Department of Transportation (DOT) for any vehicle owned by or designated by the member. The member need not register the vehicle and the temporary plate is issued at no charge.
- In general, a person must pay the vehicle registration fee for the entire registration period. In certain cases, a person who has been in active military service is entitled to pay a part-period fee.
- Upon entering the military, a member may request a refund of the unused portion of a registration fee upon the person's providing proof that the vehicle will not be operated in this or another state during the remainder of the period for which the vehicle is registered and return of the certificate of registration and registration plates.
- If a person who holds a valid license is unable to make a renewal application within the period declared by DOT due to serving with any branch of the armed services, the person may apply for a renewal of the license at any time during

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

the person's service or within six months after the date of discharge from service.

- A person's operator's license does not expire while the licensee is on active duty. Rather, the operator's license expires 30 days after the registrant returns to this state or 90 days after the licensee is discharged from active duty, whichever is earlier.

2015 Wisconsin Act 323 extends these same privileges to persons on active duty in the U.S. Foreign Service.

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